

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the office communication mailed November 14, 2005. By this amendment, Applicant has amended claims 12, 20, 72 and 80, to correct typographical errors; has canceled claims 17-19 and 77-79, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein; and respectfully request entry and examination of new claims 118-123. No new matter has been entered as a result of this amendment. The following remarks are respectfully submitted.

In the office communication, the Examiner indicated that the application contained claims directed to seven species:

- I. Figures 1-5
- II. Figure 6
- III. Figures 7-9
- IV. Figure 10
- V. Figures 11-11a
- VI. Figure 12
- VII. Figure 13

The Examiner has required the Applicant to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution, per 35 U.S.C. 121. In response to this election requirement, Applicant provisionally elects, with traversal, Group I, submitting that claims 1-5, 7-12, 20-24, 26, 61-65, 67-72, 80-83, and new claims 118 and 120 read upon Group I. Applicant traverses the restriction requirement on the grounds that no serious burden on the Examiner exists. Applicant submits that the subject matter of each of Groups I, II, III, IV, V, VI, and VII is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group would encompass a search for the subject matter of all groups. If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, it must be examined on the merits even though it includes claims directed to distinct or independent invention. M.P.E.P § 803. To avoid duplicative examination

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by the Patent Office and unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant, Applicant respectfully requests examination on the merits of all the claims, not just those associated with Group I.

We believe there are no additional fees for this response. However, the Examiner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to deposit account number 061910.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned in the event there are any questions concerning the election or if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 12, 2005

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